<u>IN THE CLAIMS:</u>

1.   (Currently Amended) An intelligent concentrator comprising:

a housing configured to be accessible to a user;

electronic circuitry residing within said housing for multiplexing data transfer between a first network interface and a plurality of client devices;

a plurality of <u>interchangeable</u> client interfaces for communicatively coupling said plurality of client devices with said electronic circuitry;

a faceplate configured to be coupled with said housing and configured to hold a plurality of interface adapters; and

said plurality of interface adapters for holding said plurality of <u>interchangeable</u> client interfaces in a substantially fixed position relative to said faceplate.

2.   (Currently Amended) The intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 1, wherein a first of said plurality of <u>interchangeable</u> client interfaces has different physical characteristics than a second of said plurality of client interfaces.

3.   (Original) The intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said electronic circuitry comprises:

a processor; and

a memory unit.

4.   (Currently Amended) The intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 1, said system further comprising:

a second network interface; and

at least one client interface <u>of said plurality of interchangeable client</u>

<u>interfaces</u> communicatively coupled with said second network interface by said

electronic circuitry.

5.   (Currently Amended) The intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 1,

wherein said intelligent concentrator is operable to provide power to said plurality of

<u>client</u> ~~electronic~~ devices, ~~said power received~~ through said first network interface.

6.   (Original) The intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said

electronic circuitry is further operable for assisting in the maintenance of network

security.

7.   (Original) The intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said

electronic circuitry is further operable for communicating system information to

said network.

8.   (Currently Amended) A configurable interface for an intelligent concentrator

comprising:

        a housing configured to be mounted in a workspace and be accessible to a

user;

        electronic circuitry residing within said housing and operable to control the

multiplexing of signals from a plurality of <u>interchangeable</u> client interfaces having

different physical characteristics to a network interface; and

a cover configured to be coupled with said housing, said cover holding a plurality of interface adapters for fixedly supporting said plurality of <u>interchangeable</u> client interfaces within said cover.

9.   (Original) The configurable interface as recited in Claim 8, wherein said electronic circuitry comprises:

   a processor; and

   a memory unit.

10.   (Currently Amended) The configurable interface as recited in Claim 8, said <u>network</u> interface further comprising:

   a second network interface; and

   at least one client interface <u>of said plurality of interchangeable client interfaces</u> communicatively coupled with said second network interface by said electronic circuitry.

11.   (Currently Amended) The configurable interface as recited in Claim 8, wherein said intelligent concentrator is operable to provide power to <u>an</u> ~~said~~ electronic device, ~~said power received~~ through said first network interface.

12.   (Original) The configurable interface as recited in Claim 8, wherein said electronic circuitry is further operable for assisting in the maintenance of network security.

13.   (Original) The configurable interface as recited in Claim 8, wherein said electronic circuitry is further operable for communicating system information to said network.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator comprising:

coupling said intelligent concentrator to a network interface, said intelligent concentrator configured to be mounted in a workspace in such a manner that said intelligent concentrator is accessible to a user;

controlling the multiplexing of data signals between a plurality of interchangeable client interfaces and said network interface using electronic circuitry residing within said intelligent concentrator;

configuring a faceplate to be coupled with said intelligent concentrator and to hold a plurality of interface adapters;

using said plurality of interface adapters to fixedly support said plurality of interchangeable client interfaces within said faceplate; and

coupling said communications jacks with said plurality of interchangeable client interfaces.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 14, wherein said plurality of interchangeable client interfaces comprises client interfaces having different physical characteristics.

16.   (Original) The method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 14, wherein said electronic circuitry comprises:

   a processor; and

   a memory unit.

17.   (Currently Amended) The method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 14, said method further comprising:

   coupling a second network interface with said intelligent concentrator; and

   using said electronic circuitry to communicatively couple a client interface <u>of</u> <u>said plurality of interchangeable client interfaces</u> with said second network interface.

18.   (Currently Amended) The method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 14, wherein said method further comprises using said intelligent concentrator to provide power to <u>an electronic</u> <u>device</u> ~~plurality of electronic devices, said power received~~ through said network interface.

19.   (Original) The method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 14, wherein said electronic circuitry is further operable for assisting in the maintenance of network security.

20.   (Original) The method for installing communications jacks into an intelligent concentrator as recited in Claim 14, wherein said electronic circuitry is further operable for communicating system information to said network.